

Syllabus

English 12B

Course Overview

English is the study of the creation and analysis of literature written in the English language. In English 12B you will explore the relation between British history and literature from the romantic period to the modern era. You will read and analyze a variety of literary works from this time period in the context of relevant cultural and political history. In English 12B you will also study a variety of techniques to improve your reading comprehension, writing skills, and grammar and mechanics. The instruction covers many types of writing: creative, descriptive, expository, narrative, and persuasive. In addition you will complete writing activities in which you will employ analytical and persuasive skills.

Course Goals

By the end of this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Explore the history and characteristics of the romantic period, especially the major poets of this era.
- Examine how gothic literature developed some similar themes as romantic poetry but in the form of fiction, especially by reading Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*.
- Explore the development of the novel from the romantic era to the Victorian and modern eras, including examples of realism (as a response to industrial development and class struggles) and modernism (stream of consciousness and the internalization of the narrative voice).
- Explore the poets and novelists of the Victorian era as well as the causes and effects leading to the end of that era.
- Examine the characteristics of Victorian drama, the importance of theater in Victorian society, and the works of famous Victorian playwright Oscar Wilde.
- Analyze social critiques in H. G. Wells' science fiction novel *The Time Machine* and in poetry produced during World Wars I and II.
- Evaluate the persuasive techniques of some of the most influential wartime speeches of the twentieth century.
- Explore modernist poetry and novels, especially how changing times fostered experimentation and departure from earlier conventions in the twentieth-century novel.

General Skills

To participate in this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Complete basic operations with word-processing software, such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs.
- Complete basic operations with presentation software, such as Microsoft PowerPoint or Google Docs presentation.
- Perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
- Communicate through email and participate in discussion boards.

For a complete list of general skills that are required for participation in online courses, refer to the Prerequisites section of the Plato Student Orientation document, found at the beginning of this course.

Credit Value

English 12B is a 0.5-credit course.

Course Materials

- Notebook
- Pencils or ink pens
- Computer with Internet connection and speakers or headphones
- Microsoft Word or equivalent
- Microsoft Excel or equivalent
- Some course readings may require a visit to your school library or public library.

Course Pacing Guide

This section provides a brief summary of the units in this semester-long course. The semester is divided into six units spread across 90 days. The pacing guide provides a general timeline for completing each unit. It is designed to fit your class schedule and is adjustable. The guide is based on a typical 180-day school year with 90 days per semester.

Unit 1: The Romantic Era

Summary

This unit focuses on the romantic era of British Literature. It begins by exploring the historical roots and characteristics of the romantic period. You will analyze the works of Byron, Shelley, and Keats and examine the development of gothic literature by studying Mary Shelley's novel *Frankenstein*. The unit ends with a lesson on Jane Austen's literary techniques and her novel *Pride and Prejudice*.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
1 day: 1	Syllabus and Plato Student Orientation <i>Review the Plato Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.</i>	Course Orientation
5 days: 2–6	An Introduction to Romanticism <i>Explore the historical roots and characteristics of the romantic period, as well as the common themes and literary devices of the time.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 7–11	Byron, Shelley, and Keats <i>Examine the lives, careers, and works of the romantic writers Byron, Shelley, and Keats, and analyze how they reflect the romantic period.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 12–17	Gothic Literature <i>Examine gothic literature and its historical roots, focusing on major gothic themes by analyzing Mary Shelley's <i>Frankenstein</i>.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 18–23	Jane Austen <i>Explore Jane Austen's life and analyze the literary themes and techniques of her novel <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 24–28	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 1	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 29	Posttest—Unit 1	Assessment

Unit 2: The Victorian Era

Summary

This unit focuses on British literature of the Victorian era. Students analyze the common themes of the era while reading selections from the work of poets such as Lord Tennyson and Elizabeth Browning. They analyze the influence of the Industrial Revolution on Charles Dickens's works and his literary techniques in the novel *Oliver Twist*. Students are also introduced to Victorian drama through a comedy of manners by Oscar Wilde. The unit ends with the study of a selection from Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*.

Day	Activity / Objective	Type
5 days: 30-34	The Victorian Era I <i>Explore the Victorian era, its common themes, and one of its most famous writers, Lord Tennyson.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 35-39	The Victorian Era II <i>Explore the literary styles and the most influential novelists and poets of the Victorian era.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 40-45	Charles Dickens <i>Explore Charles Dickens's background, including how the Industrial Revolution influenced his work, and analyze his literary techniques in <i>Oliver Twist</i>.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 46-49	Emily Brontë <i>Explore Emily Brontë's life and analyze her literary techniques.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 50-53	Victorian Drama <i>Examine the characteristics of Victorian drama, the importance of theater in Victorian society, and the work of famous Victorian playwright Oscar Wilde.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 54-57	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 2	Unit Activity/ Discussion
2 days: 58-59	Course Activity	Course Activity
1 day: 60	Posttest—Unit 2	Assessment

Unit 3: The Modern Era

Summary

This unit begins by exploring literature from the end of the Victorian era and the outlook of the writers of the time. You will analyze the work of H.G. Wells and read selections from the science fiction novel *The Time Machine*. You will also analyze poetry written during World Wars I and II, as well as historic speeches by political leaders of the time.

The unit ends by examining the modern and postmodern movements and the effect of the changing times on the twentieth-century novel.

Day	Activity / Objective	Type
3 days: 61-63	The Decline of the Victorian Era <i>Explore the causes of the end of the Victorian era and how writers of the time reflected societal concerns in their work.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 64–67	H. G. Wells <i>Explore H. G. Wells's life and analyze his social critiques in his science fiction novel <i>The Time Machine</i>.</i>	Lesson
5 day: 68-72	War Literature <i>Examine literature produced during World Wars I and II, and analyze some of the most influential wartime speeches of the twentieth century.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 73–78	The Twentieth-Century Poetic Revolution <i>Explore the departure from Victorian literature to modernist literature, focusing on how writers experimented with and redefined poetry in the twentieth century.</i>	Lesson
5 days 79-83	The Modern Novel <i>Explore the modern and postmodern periods, including how changing times affected conventions of the twentieth-century novel.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 84-88	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 3	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 89	Posttest—Unit 3	Assessment
1 day: 90	End of Semester Test	Assessment